



Making a difference...together

Regional Parks School Programs

Pre-trip Instructions & Meeting Locations

Arrival time

Please arrive at the park 15 minutes before your program time in order to have a washroom break and snacks. This allows time for organizing the students without cutting into the program time.

Note: Please arrive 15 minutes early for forest program at Witty's Lagoon as your group will need to walk to the Teaching Shelter (for forest programs) before the program start time. Please see driving directions below for more information.

Prepare your students

1. **Name Tags:** Prior to arrival, divide your students into 2 groups, and have each student wear a large, waterproof nametag.
2. **Clothing:** Be prepared to participate outdoors, rain or shine. Wear clothing appropriate to the season, and be prepared for cold and wet conditions. Wear sturdy footwear and please do not bring umbrellas or strollers as we may be on uneven trails.
3. **Guidelines:** Be sure the students are aware that this is an educational field trip in an "outdoor classroom". Appropriate classroom behaviour is expected.

Role of teacher and adult helpers

Teachers are responsible for group management. We welcome adult helpers to participate in all activities and help with individual student needs. Suggested ratio is one adult: eight students.

First Aid

While park naturalists make every effort to keep participants safe, and do carry a first aid kit, there will not be a certified first aid attendant leading the program. Please continue to follow the first aid procedures in keeping with your school district's policies for field trips.

Meeting Locations & Driving Directions

Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park – Nature Centre (Beaver Beach)

Seasonal Safari and Marvelous Mammals programs start at Beaver Beach.

Meet your guide outside the Beaver Lake Nature Centre (Beaver Beach)

Follow the Pat Bay Highway from Victoria and take the Royal Oak Drive exit. Turn left on Royal Oak Drive to cross the highway and right on Elk Lake Drive to reach the main Beaver Lake entrance. Park in the main paved parking lot at Beaver Beach. Allow approximately 20 minutes driving time from Victoria.

Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park – Beaver Lake Picnic Shelter (Filter Beds)

E.A.G.L.E. programs start at the Beaver Lake Picnic Shelter at the south end of Beaver Lake.

Meet your guide at the Beaver Lake Picnic Shelter at Filter Beds Parking Lot

From West Saanich Road turn east onto Beaver Lake Road and drive 1.2km to the Filter Beds parking lot.

Please note: there is a bridge load limit on a bridge between the Beaver Beach parking lot and the Filter Beds parking lot. As a result, if you are traveling in a bus with a gross weight of over 9600kg, you **must** enter the park from West Saanich Road to reach the Filter Beds parking lot.

Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park – Equestrian Centre

Beaver Engineever program starts at the Equestrian Centre at the southeast end of Beaver Lake.

Meet your guide at the grassy area at the Equestrian Centre Parking Lot.

From West Saanich Road turn east onto Beaver Lake Road and drive 1km to the Equestrian Centre parking lot.

Or follow the Pat Bay Highway from Victoria and take the Royal Oak Drive exit. Turn left on Royal Oak Drive to cross the highway and turn right on Elk Lake Drive. Enter the park by turning left onto Beaver Lake Road. Continue past the main paved parking lot at Beaver Beach and the gravel parking lot at Filter Beds. Follow the road to the next driveway with a sign saying “Equestrian Centre”. Allow approximately 20 minutes driving time from Victoria.

Please note: there is a bridge load limit on a bridge between the Beaver Beach parking lot and the Filter Beds parking lot. As a result, if you are traveling in a bus with a gross weight of over 9600kg, you **must** enter the park from West Saanich Road to reach the Filter Beds or Equestrian Centre parking lots.

For a detailed directional map for all Elk/Beaver Lake meeting locations, visit:

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/parks-recreation-culture/parks-trails/find-park-trail/elk-beaver-lake>

Francis/King Regional Park- All Programs

Meet your guide outside the Nature Centre

Allow approximately 20 minutes driving time from Victoria. On the Trans-Canada Highway from Victoria, take the Helmcken Road exit. Turn left on Burnside Road West, right on Prospect Lake Road and left on Munn Road. After this intersection, turn right into the driveway that leads to the parking lot. Use caution and drive carefully.

For a detailed directional map, visit: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/parks-recreation-culture/parks-trails/find-park-trail/francis-king>

Island View Beach Regional Park

BEACH PROGRAMS

Meet your guide at the main parking lot near the covered picnic shelter.

Follow the Pat Bay Highway from Victoria. Turn right on Island View Road, then left on Homathko Road, which leads to the park entrance. Meet your guide near the covered picnic shelter. Allow approximately 30 minutes driving time from Victoria.

For a detailed directional map of Island View Beach, visit: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/parks-recreation-culture/parks-trails/find-park-trail/island-view-beach>

Witty's Lagoon Regional Park

FOREST PROGRAMS

Meet your guide at the Teaching Shelter off the Lagoon Trail down from the main parking lot

Follow the Trans-Canada Highway from Victoria, and take the Colwood exit. Follow the Old Island Highway, which turns into Sooke Road. From Sooke Road, turn left on Metchosin Road. From Metchosin Road, turn left and park at the main park entrance. Proceed down the main trail, turning left onto the Lagoon trail. Allow approximately 35 minutes driving time from Victoria, and 15 minutes to walk to the Teaching Shelter. Buses are to park in the main park entrance parking lot on Metchosin Road during the program.